

PAULA COOPER GALLERY

JA'TOVIA M. GARY Biography

Born: Dallas, TX, 1984
Lives and works in Dallas, TX

EDUCATION

2014 MFA, School of Visual Arts, Social Documentary Filmmaking, New York
2012 Dual BA, Brooklyn College, Documentary Film Production/Africana Studies, New York
2009 Documentary Filmmaking Certificate, LV Prasad Academy, Chennai, India

TEACHING

2017 Direct Animation/Camera-less Filmmaking Workshop, Mono No Aware, Brooklyn, NY
Advanced Editing and Post Production, The New School, New York, NY
16mm Filmmaking Workshop, Mono No Aware, Brooklyn, NY

FELLOWSHIPS AND RESIDENCIES

2022 Guggenheim Fellow, Film-Video
2019 Field of Vision Fellow
Creative Capital Fellow
2018 Radcliffe Institute Fellow, Harvard University
Robert Flaherty Film Seminar Fellow, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY
Firelight Media Documentary Film Fellow, New York, NY
Artist in Residence, Headlands Artist Residency, California
2017 Artist in Residence, Squeaky Wheel Workspace Residency, Buffalo, NY
Artist in Residence, Jacob Burns Film Center, Pleasantville, NY
2016 Terra Foundation of American Art Summer Artist Residency, Giverny, France
The Evidence of Things Not Seen, Sundance Film Festival Fellows Program

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2020 *The Giverny Document (Single Channel)*, Juror's Award, Ann Arbor Film Festival
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Top Grit Award, Indie Grits Film Festival
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Best Experimental Film, BlackStar Film Festival
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Director's Choice Award, Spectral Film Festival
2019 *The Giverny Document (Single Channel)*, Douglas Edwards Experimental Film Award, LA Film Critics Association
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Honorable Mention, Camden International Film Festival
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Moving Ahead Award, Locarno International Film Festival
The Evidence of Things Not Seen, Creative Capital Awards

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- 2018 *Giverny I (Négresse Impériale)*, Audience Award, Best Experimental Short, New Orleans Film Festival
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), Special Jury Mention, Best Experimental Short, New Orleans Film Festival
Firelight Next Step Production Grant
- 2017 Filmmaker Magazine's 25 New Faces of Independent Filmmaking
The Evidence of Things Not Seen, Sarah Jacobson Grant
- 2016 *An Ecstatic Experience*, Jury Award, Haverhill Experimental Film Festival
An Ecstatic Experience, Special Jury Award, New Orleans Film Festival
The Evidence of Things Not Seen, Rooftop Films/ TCS Camera Package Grant
The Evidence of Things Not Seen, BritDoc Genesis Film Grant.
- 2015 *The Evidence of Things Not Seen*, Production Grant, The Jerome Foundation
The Evidence of Things Not Seen, Production Grant, Sundance Documentary Fund
- 2014 *Cakes Da Killa: NO HOMO*, Audience Award, Ann Arbor Film Festival

SELECTED ONE-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Concentrations 64: Ja'Tovia Gary, I KNOW IT WAS THE BLOOD*, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX
You Smell Like Outside..., Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY
- 2021 *The Giverny Suite*, ZOLLAMT MMK, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2020 *flesh that needs to be loved*, Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY
Hammer Projects: Ja'Tovia Gary, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2019 *Ja'Tovia Gary: Giverny I (Négresse Impériale)*, Memorial Art Gallery, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Tactile Cosmologies, galerie frank elbaz, Paris, France
Screenings 4, University of San Diego Humanities Center Galleries, San Diego, CA
- 2018 *Giverny I (NÉGRESSE IMPÉRIALE)*, Boston University Galleries ANNEX, Boston, MA
A Care Ethic, UC Santa Barbara Museum of Architecture and Design, CA
- 2017 *Modern Mondays: An Evening with Ja'Tovia Gary*, The Museum of Modern Art, NY
An Ecstatic Experience, Atlanta Contemporary, Atlanta, GA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Cut Frames, Captured Pixels*, Florida State University Museum of Fine Arts. Tallahassee, FL
God Made My Face: A Collective Portrait of James Baldwin, Mead Art Museum, Amherst, MA
Resting Our Eyes, ICA San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
- 2022 *Black Melancholia*, Center for Curatorial Studies, Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY
partus/chorus, curated by Ja'Tovia Gary, galerie frank elbaz, Paris, France
Freedom Dreams, The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, New Paltz, NY
feels | familiar, The Meyerhoff Gallery at The Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD

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- 2021 *There is a Woman in Every Color: Black Women in Art*, Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Brunswick, ME
A New Landscape, A Possible Horizon, 2021 Texas Biennial, San Antonio and Houston, TX
IDEOLOGIES, The MUSEUM MMK für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt, Germany
the view from here, Sadie Coles HQ, London, UK (online)
Networked Nature, Art Vault Santa Fe, Thoma Foundation, Santa Fe, NM
The Politics of Desire, Paula Cooper Gallery, Palm Beach, FL
- 2020 *How to Disappear*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
A Beautiful Struggle: Black Feminist Futurism, Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, Grand Rapids, MI
An Enunciated Life, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2019 *Mickalene Thomas: Better Nights*, The Bass Museum of Art, Miami, FL
Direct Message: Art, Language, and Power, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, IL
Down Time: On the Art of Retreat, Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Accrochage, galerie frank elbaz, Dallas, TX
Mapping Black Identities: 3 Films, Minneapolis Museum of Art, Minneapolis, MN
Material Tells, Oakville Galleries, Ontario, Canada
Common Bonds, UC Santa Barbara Museum of Architecture and Design, Santa Barbara, CA
God Made My Face: A Collective Portrait of James Baldwin, curated by Hilton Als, David Zwirner Gallery, New York, NY
- 2018 *TRUTH*, The Current Museum, SoHo, New York, NY
On Protest, Art and Activism: Part 1, Brown University, Providence, RI
An Ecstatic Experience, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture, Washington, D.C.
Elemental, Curated by Zoé Samudzi, Ashara Ekundayo Gallery, Oakland, CA
Presence Africaine, Bandjoun Station, Cameroon
In Context / this past was waiting for me, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
On Whiteness, The Racial Imaginary Institute, The Kitchen, New York, NY
How Does This Make You Feel, Hales Project Room, New York, NY
FOUR, We Buy Gold, New York, NY
- 2017 *Hypervisibilities*, Organized by Sondra Perry, Union Docs + Vera List Center, Brooklyn, NY
An Incomplete History of Protest, The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Civil Disobedience, MIT List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge, MA
Lossless, Leonard Pearlstein Gallery, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA
Face Shifts, Microscope Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Millennium Film Journal 65: Architecture On Screen and Off, Anthology Film Archives, NY
We Wanted a Revolution: Black Radical Women / Queer Brooklyn film screening, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY
Unbound: Visions of the Black Feminine, British Film Institute Southbank, London, UK
This is You Reading My Diary: An Evening with NNFS, Anthology Film Archives, NY
How to Love a Watermelon Woman, The Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 *Pain Revisited*, The Whitney Museum, New York, NY
This is What We Mean by Short Films, Rooftop Films, Brooklyn, New York, NY
New Filmmakers Spring Screening Series, Anthology Film Archives, New York, NY
Comrade, what is your visual bond today?, Sunday Sessions, MoMA PS1, Queens, NY
Black Radical Imagination, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA
Transitional Objects / Transitional Subjects, Flaherty Spring 2016 Screening Series, Anthology Film Archives, NY
New Negress Film Society Short Film Program, Made In New York Media Center, Brooklyn, NY
- 2015 *Now! Cinema* Screening, Interference Archive, Brooklyn, NY

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Black Radical Imagination, Reclamation of the Black Body, Articule, Montreal, Canada
Black Radical Imagination, Cinema Studies Institute + LIFT, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Black Radical Imagination, Reclamation of the Black Body, SAW Media Art Centre,
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Hauntologies: past/present continuum, Black Cinema House, Chicago, IL
Afroisms, Busseywood African Film Festival, London, UK
Black Radical Imagination, The Black Fantastic, The Schomburg Center, Harlem, NY
Black Radical Imagination, MoCADA Soul of Brooklyn, NY
Directed by Women Series, NNFS IU Cinema, Bloomington, IN

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2020 *THE GIVERNY SUITE*
- 2019 *The Evidence of Things Not Seen (in production)*
The Giverny Document
- 2017 *Giverny I (Négresse Impériale)*
Sleep is the Cousin of Death
- 2015 *An Ecstatic Experience*
- 2013 *Cakes Da Killa: NO HOMO*
Women's Work
Harlem Montage
- 2011 *Deconstructing Your Mother*
Sound Rite

MUSIC VIDEOS

- 2013 *Cakes Da Killa "Goodie Goodies"*

FESTIVALS AND SCREENINGS

- 2022 *An Ecstatic Experience*, Seeking a Shared Humanity, The Menil Collection, Houston, TX
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), International Short Film Festival, Oberhausen,
Germany
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Side/The Other Side, curated by Ghen Dennis,
Allentown Art Museum, Allentown, PA
An Ecstatic Experience, Flesh to Spirit: Materiality and Abstraction in Black Experimental Film,
The Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Metrograph, New York, NY
- 2021 *An Ecstatic Experience*, Land of Broken Dreams, Park Avenue Armory, New York, NY
An Ecstatic Experience, The Watermill Center, Water Mill, NY
- 2020 *The Giverny Document (Single Channel)*, Women in Media - Newark Film Festival, Newark, NJ

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- The Giverny Document (Single Channel)*, Ann Arbor Film Festival, Ann Arbor, MI
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Indie Grits Film Festival, Columbia, SC
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), *Intertextuality: Performance/Subjectivity in Experimental Shorts*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), True/False Film Festival, Columbia, MO
An Ecstatic Experience, "Forms Are Facts," Rachael Rakes Visiting Artist Lecture in Conjunction with Cosmic Rays Film Fest, UNC Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Vancity Theatre, Vancouver, BC, Canada
Cakes da Killa: NO HOMO, Films at AAMP: In Conversation Shorts, African American Museum in Philadelphia, PA
An Ecstatic Experience, The Futurism Is Ours: The New Negress Film Society, Maysles Documentary Center, New York, NY
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Denton Black Film Festival, Denton, TX
An Ecstatic Experience, Making Images Move: Handmade Cinema and the Other Arts, Light Industry, Brooklyn, NY
An Ecstatic Experience, Directions Screening 2: Future Archives, Plymouth Athenaeum, Plymouth, UK
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Cinemateca de Bogotá, Bogotá, Colombia
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), London Short Film Festival, London, UK
- 2019 *Giverny I (Négresse Impériale)*, ICA Cinema: Tony Cokes/Ja'Tovia Gary, Institute of Contemporary Art at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Furora Film Festival, Berlin, Germany
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Montreal International Documentary Festival (RIDM), Montreal, Québec, Canada
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), AFI Fest, Los Angeles, CA
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Houston Cinema Arts Festival, Houston, TX
An Ecstatic Experience, Gems from the Landmarks Video Catalog, Austin Film Society, Austin, TX
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), Filmforum at MOCA Presents: All That You Can't Leave Behind, MOCA Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), Flaherty NYC: Surface Knowledge, Anthology Film Archives, New York, NY
An Ecstatic Experience, Landmarks at the University of Texas Austin, Austin, TX
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival, Berwick-upon-Tweed, England, UK
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), Cinemigrante Film Festival, Buenos Aires, Argentina
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Camden International Film Festival, Camden, ME
Women's Work, FemFilm Festival, New York, NY
The Giverny Document (Single Channel), Locarno Film Festival, Locarno, Switzerland
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), British Film Institute Southbank, London, England, UK
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), BlackStar Film Festival, Philadelphia, PA
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), Crossroads Film Festival, organized by San Francisco Cinemathèque, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), D E E P Live organized by Sheffield Doc/Fest, Sheffield, England, UK

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- Giverny I (Négresse Impériale)*, Not Sorry: Feminist Experimental Film from the 1970's - Today, Anthology Film Archives, New York, NY
An Ecstatic Experience & Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), An Evening with Ja'Tovia Gary, Harvard Film Archive, Cambridge, MA
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), Images Film Festival, Toronto, Canada
An Ecstatic Experience, Personal Problems: A Film Series Organized by Charles Gaines, Hauser & Wirth, Los Angeles, CA
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), Red Bull Music Presents Rhythm Frequencies, Los Angeles, CA
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), The Florida Experimental Film/Video Festival, Tampa, FL
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), International Film Festival Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), Experimental & Documentary Cinema: MFA Salon, Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2018 *An Ecstatic Experience & Giverny I (Négresse Impériale)*, Kabinett Sector, Art Basel Miami, FL
An Ecstatic Experience & Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), Paris Photo, Grand Palais, Paris France
An Ecstatic Experience, Current Museum, New York, NY
An Ecstatic Experience, New Orleans Film Festival, New Orleans, LA
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), Edinburgh International Film Festival, Scotland
An Ecstatic Experience, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
An Ecstatic Experience, Doc Yard, Cambridge, MA
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), CinemAfrica, Stockholm, Sweden
Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), Afrikana Film Festival, Richmond, VA
An Ecstatic Experience & Giverny I (Négresse Impériale), "Mapping Energies" Series, Wesleyan University, CT
An Ecstatic Experience, Experimental & Documentary Cinema: The Visible Spectrum, Duke University, Durham, NC
An Ecstatic Experience, Smithsonian African American Film Festival, Washington, D.C.
- 2017 *Sleep is the Cousin of Death*, TIFF Black Star Screening Program, Toronto, Canada
An Ecstatic Experience, TIFF Black Star Screening Program, Toronto, Canada
An Ecstatic Experience, Temps D'Images Festival, Cluj, Romania
An Ecstatic Experience, Tacoma Film Festival, Tacoma, WA
An Ecstatic Experience, Hamburg International Short Film Festival, Hamburg, Germany
An Ecstatic Experience, Milwaukee Underground Film Festival, Milwaukee, WI
An Ecstatic Experience, Glitch Film Festival, Glasgow, Scotland
An Ecstatic Experience, Glasgow Short Film Festival, Glasgow, Scotland
- 2016 *An Ecstatic Experience*, Uppsala Short Film Festival, Sweden
An Ecstatic Experience, Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur, Switzerland
An Ecstatic Experience, Rush Process Festival of Handcrafted Cinema, Houston, TX
An Ecstatic Experience, New Orleans Film Festival, New Orleans, LA
An Ecstatic Experience, Afrikana Film Festival, Richmond, VA
An Ecstatic Experience, Haverhill Experimental Film Festival, Haverhill, MA
An Ecstatic Experience, Edinburgh International Film Festival, Edinburgh, Scotland
An Ecstatic Experience, New Filmmakers Spring Screening series, New York, NY

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- An Ecstatic Experience*, Stockholm Animation and Experimental Film Festival, Sweden
An Ecstatic Experience, ATHENS ANIMFEST, Athens, Greece
An Ecstatic Experience, Maryland International Film Festival, Hagerstown, MD
An Ecstatic Experience, Athens Film and Video Festival, Athens, OH
An Ecstatic Experience, Ann Arbor Film Festival, Ann Arbor, MI
An Ecstatic Experience, Newark Women in Film Festival, Newark, NJ
An Ecstatic Experience, Atlanta Film Festival, Atlanta, GA
An Ecstatic Experience, Tampere Film Festival, Tampere, Finland
- 2015 *An Ecstatic Experience*, Gdansk International Animation Festival, Gdansk, Poland
An Ecstatic Experience, Black Star Film Festival, Philadelphia, PA
- 2014 *Cakes Da Killa: NO HOMO*, Milwaukee LGBT Film/ Video Festival, Milwaukee, WI
Cakes Da Killa: NO HOMO, BlackStar Film Festival, Philadelphia, PA
Cakes Da Killa: NO HOMO, NewFest LGBT Film Festival, New York, NY
Cakes Da Killa: NO HOMO, Frameline LGBTQ Film Festival, San Francisco, CA
Cakes Da Killa: NO HOMO, Toronto LGBTQ Film Festival, Toronto, Canada
Cakes Da Killa: NO HOMO, Ann Arbor Film Festival, Ann Arbor, MI
Cakes Da Killa: NO HOMO, New Voices In Black Cinema Brooklyn, NY
Cakes Da Killa: NO HOMO, Marlon Riggs Film Festival, Dallas, TX
Cakes Da Killa: NO HOMO, Pan African Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA
- 2012 *Deconstructing Your Mother*, Women of African Descent Film Festival, Brooklyn, NY
Deconstructing Your Mother, CUNY Film Festival 2012, New York, NY
The Mama the Daughter and The Holy Ghost, Dirty Sensibilities: A 21st Century Exploration of a New Black American, Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute, NY
- 2011 *Deconstructing Your Mother*, Brooklyn College Film Festival 2011, Brooklyn, NY
Sound Rite, Re-Imagining Haiti: Standing with Papa Legba, Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute, NY

PRESENTATIONS, TALKS, AND CONFERENCES

- 2020 *Ja'Tovia Gary and Dessane Lopez Cassell in Conversation*, Memorial Art Gallery, University of Rochester, NY
ONLINE: THE GIVERNY DOCUMENT Screening and Q&A with Ja'Tovia Gary & Erin Christovale, Hammer Museum (Online)
Firelight Media's Beyond Resilience Series: The Black Gaze, Firelight Media (Online)
Migration Thursday screenings, May 28, 2020, Orphan Film Symposium (Online)
- 2019 *The Ecstatic Message: Talking Music and Moving Image Art with Ja'Tovia Gary and Arthur Jafa*, McEvoy Auditorium at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.
Ja'Tovia Gary, Humanities Center at the University of San Diego, San Diego, CA
The Global Black Aesthetic: The No Direct Flight Global Meet Up, BlackStar Film Festival, Philadelphia, PA

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In Conversation: The Armory Show Artist Talks: Leonardo Drew and Ja'Tovia Gary with Jen Mergel, New York, NY

- 2018 *Ja'Tovia Gary: A Care Ethic*, AD&A Museum, UC Santa Barbara, CA
What Art Speaks to These Times, An Incomplete History of Protest, The Whitney Museum, New York, NY
The Armory Show Artist Talks: Leonardo Drew and Ja'Tovia Gary with Jen Mergel, New York, NY
- 2017 *Un-working Dark Matters: Black Feminist Visuality Conference*, NYU Steinhardt, Department of Media, Culture and Communication, New York, NY
NNFS Short Film Program and Lecture, University of Michigan, Penny Stamps Lecture Series/Ann Arbor Film Festival, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2016 *Black Radical Imagination Conference*, New Negress Film Society Panel and Screening Series, The Cooper Union, New York, NY
NNFS: Engaging the Radical Possibilities of Emerging Black Women Filmmakers, screening and workshop series, South Dallas Cultural Center, Dallas, TX
- 2015 *New Negress Film Society Short Film Program*, Jorgenson Screening and Lecture Series, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
Habitual Line Steppers: Constructing Blackness Beyond the Imagination, Black Portraitures Conference, Florence, Italy